sustained by the land owner by way of loss of standing crops, trees, severance of land, etc. and not on the basis of the local registry alone. Land is acquired from the owner after following due procedure prescribed under law. Opportunity is given to the affected land owner to raise objection, if any, before the Competent Authority.

Conversion of road into National Highways in Tenth Plan

1673. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) how many important roads have been proposed to be transformed into the National Highways during the Tenth Five Year Plan period;

(b) the name and length of each such roads;

(c) what criteria have been adopted to propose such transformation; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to transform any roads of Assam into NH in Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OFTHE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) to (d) All proposals for conversion of State Highways into National Highways including those of Assam have been returned to the respective State Governments. Presently there is a ban on declaration of new National Highwas due to fund constraints. The Government may, however, consider conversion of very limited lengths of a few State Highways into National Highways during the course of the 10th Five Year Plan, keeping in view the traffic needs, *inter-se* priority and availability of funds, after the ban is lifted.

Coastal Highways in Gujarat

1674. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of National Highways, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;